GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:479
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
NATIONAL MINORITIES COMMISSION
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the National Minorities Commission has any legalstatus and it is mandatory to give replies to its qucries by State and UT Governments;

(b) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the National MinoritiesCommission reports with regards to 15-points programme for the welfare and development of minorities.

(d) If so the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the Government agree with the findings of the NMC report; and

(f) if so the steps likely to be taken by the Government in this regards?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. The Commission has been established under the National Commission forMinorities Act, 1992. While performing any of its functions, the Commission has all the powers of a Civil Court. It can, inter-alia, summon and enforce the attendance of any person and can requisition any public record or copy thereof from any Court of office.

(c),(d) (e)&(f) Suggestions of the Commission with regard to the 15-Point Programme havebeen taken into consideration by the Government for revision of the 15 Point Programme in order to make it a more effective instrument for the welfare of minorities.